

SECRET

DD/S-61-3126

ER-61-7377

15 September 1961

Honorable Clarence Cannon
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

You will recall that the private movement called "Tractors for Freedom" failed to achieve its purpose of freeing the prisoners in Cuba and was closed down. This Agency did not contribute to nor participate in this enterprise.

When it came to an end, there were many thousands of unopened letters containing contributions which had been received by the Tractors for Freedom Committee. The Committee decided, with the approval of the President and the Attorney General, that these letters should be returned unopened to the senders accompanied by letters of appreciation from the Committee. In order to do this Mr. Dodge, of the Committee, hired stenographers at his personal expense at a cost of several hundred dollars, and the necessary stamps were supplied by the Post Office in the amount of approximately \$2,500. The Post Office must be reimbursed, and Mr. Dodge would like to be reimbursed for the stenographic costs.

The White House has requested that this Agency supply the funds to clear out these accounts. At our Appropriations Hearing on Sunday, 11 June 1961, your Committee requested that we not participate in the tractor affair without consulting with you. As stated above, we did nothing to promote that affair while it was active but would propose to comply with the request of the White House to pay these costs for its liquidation if you have no objection.

Sincerely,

GC:LRH:jb (in draft)

Typed:DD/S:laq

Distribution:

O&1 - Add via Comptroller

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/s/

C. P. Cabell
General, USAF
Acting Director

CONCUR:

/s/ in draft

25X1

L.R. Houston, Gen Coun

L. K. White, DD/S

15 SEP 1961

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 15 September 1961	
TO: Executive Registry			
ROOM NO. 237	BUILDING Administration		
REMARKS:			
<p>Colonel White obtained General Cabell's signature on the attached this morning.</p> <p>I have given the O&1 to the Comptroller for handcarrying to Mr. Cannon.</p>			
FROM: [REDACTED]		O-DD/S	
ROOM NO. 124A	BUILDING East	EXTENSION [REDACTED]	
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. GPO : 1957—O-439445 (47)	

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